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Title: Elavain's Discovery Part I

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As an apprentice to Lord Raven, Elavain often found herself in his study reading the many arcane books and scrolls he had accumulated over the years. Of particular interest to her were the scrolls and research materials that Lord Raven had uncovered that eventually led to him perform the ritual to resurrect Fossergrim from his prison of torment in the afterlife. Those who know the story are aware that after his resurrection, Fossergrim was a different man than he was before. Once a good mage, he was now empowered with spells of Necromancy and had troubling visions.

While studying some historical documents, Elavain came across an error in translation that brought with it a grim realization. In resurrecting Fossergrim, Lord Raven had made a mistake. A slight change in the pronounciation of a critical incantation brought Fossergrim back into the body of a man. Elavain's careful review of historical documents indicated that in his previous life, Fossergrim had in fact been an elf!

Not feeling comfortable with confronting her

mentor with his mistake, Elavain instead approached Fossergrim himself... though with a good degree of caution. He listened with polite interest and at first, seemed to dismiss her findings. Days later, he sought her out and told her that he intended to undertake the Human to Elf quest. He admitted that since her revelation, he had been plagued by strange visions... and quite frankly admitted that even if he hadn't really been an elf before, some change was needed as he felt his life was of no value since his resurrection.

Elavain related her recent experience in seeking the arcane knowledge of spellweaving and convinced Fossergrim that he should also undertake that quest as well.

The quests were not so easily undertaken. Upon starting the Human to Elf quest, Fossergrim sought Bravehorn, and when a Troll approached he unleashed his usual combination of spells. As the chill from the powerful Wither spell disspated he turned to see that Bravehorn lay dead on the ground nearby! Luckily the magical energies of the lands soon brought the stag back to life and he bore no ill will towards Fossergrim and allowed him to lead him on to the watering hole.

Later, Fossergrim sought to solve the riddle of Enigma only to find that that odd creature was located within an area filled with evil spawn. It seems that many parts of the lands are now overwhelmed with evil these days. Fossergrim enlisted the aid of Avenhaar the Elf, one of Lord Raven's guildmembers. As she peaced the evil spawn, he was able to successfuly complete that part of the quest... but more peril lay ahead.

As a Dread Necromancer, undertaking a journey to Spirituality with all it's Pixies, Unicorn and Ki'rin would have been a disaster, yet he needed to speak to Arielle the pixie to complete the last part of the quest. Avenhaar the Elf told him of another location to find Arielle, in the lands of Feluccia. To limit his time in these dangerous lands Elavain went to Spirituality to gather baubels and upon returning to Winterbreeze, opened a red gate for him to complete his quest.

Stepping thru the gate, Fossergrim was immediately attacked! Were they murders, seeking a cheap thrill... no... this shrine was under the spell of the evil spawn as well. Fossergrim passed into ghostly form and retreated thru the gate. Fortunately, fearing for the worst, he had put all his earthly belongings into a backpack and handed them to Elavain before stepping through the gate. Elavain was not willing to let the quest end at this point and she bravely stepped through the gate

and sought to confront the evil spawn! However they had moved away, perhaps to attack another victim. She stepped back through the gate and urged Fossergrim to find Arielle quickly. He met with success and then they both returned to the Lycaeum and watched his wonderous transformation into elven form.

However... this was not the end of the days adventures, for they still had to undertake the quest for the arcane magic of Spellweaving.

Elavain gave encouragement to Fossergrim as they made their way from the Honor Shrine in Ilshenar. She told him of her ordeal just the previous day and how Lord Raven helped her with the more difficult parts of the quest. However since they knew exactly where to go this time, she said it would be much less perilous. Fossergrim nodded and prepared himself for a fight as they moved into the Gargoyle mining camp. After fighting many Gargoyles and controllers it began to seem that there were no Exodus Overseers around... but then a Paragon came floating into view. Elavain and Fossergrim battled it to their exhaustion and eventually their death. It was clear that a frontal assault would not work on this monstrous machine.

After resurrecting themselves at a shrine, they again attempted to This time, each took turnes stepping through the cave mouth and casting spells. Elavain cast Natures Fury and Energy Vortexes, then Fossergrim would step through and cast Wither, and other powerful spells of Necromancy. In this fashion the infernal machine was eventually defeated. However, they had just begun to satisfy the quota set by the elves and Fossergrim set about locating additional Exodus Overseers... battling Controllers and Enslaved Gargoyles as well he was near success when another Paragon Overseer appeared! Again, quick death for Fossergrim but this time Elavain was ready to resurrect him and they set about luring the machine to the mouth of the cave so they could again defeat it.

destroy the evil machine.

Sometimes, the longest battles are the most rewarding. Elavain and Fossergrim again showed that brains defeat might and as the machine crashed to the ground Fossergrim had a sense of accomplishment... one part of the quest was complete. Surely the tasks must become easier from here?

As Elavain and Fossergrim made their way through the desert a Paragon Efreet attacked and Fossergrim fell quickly. Elavain was able to use her new powers to eventually defeat the magical genie but she had to hide often to keep herself alive. As Fossergrim ran once again

to the shrine, she scouted ahead and encountered a Paragon Fire Elemental. She spurred her hourse into a gallop, trying to outrun the fiend. If she tried to hide, the monster would reveal her. The flame from his body scortched her skin and burnt her hair. Finally she outran the fiery monster and met with Fossergrim. Both moved cautiously to avoid another encounter.

End: Part One of Two